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SECURITY INFORMATION

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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

1. Mossadeq insists Iran must have foreign assistance: Mossadeq informed the American Ambassador through an intermediary on 19 August that the situation in Iran was rapidly getting out of hand. The country's security was being threatened and he could not find a replacement for the Chief of Police, who was unable to handle the situation and had offered to resign. He wished to warn the Ambassador that conditions would deteriorate further unless Iran received assurance of immediate foreign aid.

The Ambassador comments that the situation is serious and may become more so. He believes, however, that Mossadeq may be dramatizing it in order to obtain American assistance. (S S/S Tehran 761, 19 Aug 52)

Comment: The Prime Minister has repeatedly attempted to use the deteriorating situation to spur American aid. While conditions are critical, there is no evidence that Mossadeq's control of the government is as yet seriously threatened.

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